

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Daniel J. Fisher

Serial No.: 10/821,068

Filed: April 8, 2004

Docket No.: M120.229.101 / 59692US002

Title: CONVERSION PAD WITH MOISTURE BARRIER

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 12-17.

Please amend claims 1 and 7 as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) A conversion pad for attaching an abrasive article to a back-up pad otherwise attached to a sanding tool, the conversion pad comprising:

- (a) a supporting layer comprising a backing material and a moisture barrier arranged on at least a portion of said backing material, thereby to protect said backing material from moisture; and
- (b) a layer of attachment material affixed to said supporting layer for attaching the abrasive article to the conversion pad.

2.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said backing material is interposed between a pair of moisture barrier layers.

3.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said layer of backing material comprises vulcanized fiber board.

4.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said moisture barrier comprises at least one of polyurethane, wax, epoxy, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl butyral, polyethylene, latex, acrylic, enamel, and tar.

5.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said layer of attachment material comprises a layer of hook-type fasteners.

6.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 5, wherein said layer of hook-type fasteners is affixed to said backing material with a heat resistant hot melt adhesive.

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7.(Currently Amended) A conversion pad for attaching an abrasive article to a back-up pad otherwise attached to a sanding tool, the conversion pad comprising a supporting layer and a layer of attachment material arranged on said supporting layer, wherein said supporting layer comprises a backing comprising vulcanized fiber board.

8.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 7, wherein said supporting layer further comprises a moisture barrier arranged on at least a portion of said backing, thereby to protect said backing material from moisture

9.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 8, wherein said supporting layer is adhesively bonded with said attachment material with a heat resistant nylon hot melt adhesive.

10.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 9, wherein said supporting layer comprises a layer of backing material interposed between a pair of moisture-proof barrier layers, thereby to protect the backing from moisture.

11.(Original) A conversion pad as defined in claim 10, wherein said moisture-proof barrier layers comprise at least one of polyurethane, wax, epoxy, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl butyral, polyethylene, latex, acrylic, enamel, and tar.

12.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said moisture barrier comprises at least one of wax, epoxy, polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, polyvinyl butyral, polyethylene, latex, acrylic, enamel, and tar.

13.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said conversion pad defines a second major surface opposite said layer of attachment material and configured for attachment to a back-up pad.

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14.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said moisture barrier is coated onto said backing material.

15.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said moisture barrier includes a moisture proof protective layer.

16.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said conversion pad is characterized by the absence of plate attachment holes extending there through.

17.(New) The conversion pad as defined in claim 1, wherein said backing material comprises vulcanized fiber board, and further wherein said moisture layer includes a first moisture proof layer coated onto a first major surface of said fiber board and a second moisture proof layer coated onto an opposed, second major surface of said fiber board, and even further wherein said conversion pad forms a back-up pad attachment surface opposite said layer of attachment material for attaching the conversion pad to a back-up pad.

18.(New) A method of manufacturing a conversion pad for use in attaching an abrasive article to a back-up pad otherwise attached to a sanding tool, the method comprising:

providing a backing material having opposed, first and second surfaces;

coating a first, moisture proof protective layer onto said first surface;

coating a second, moisture proof protective layer onto said second surface;

wherein said protective layers and said backing material combine to define a supporting layer; and

affixing an attachment material to a face of said supporting layer to define a conversion pad adapted to attach an abrasive article to a back-up pad.

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19.(New) The method as defined in claim 18, wherein coating said first, moisture proof protective layer includes:

applying a sealer or primer to said first surface; and

applying a basecoat onto said sealer or primer.